

**Abstract of the Invention**

- 5           The invention is a method for preparing a stabilized aqueous alkali or alkaline earth metal hypobromite solution. The method comprises the steps of:
- a.       Mixing an aqueous solution of alkali or alkaline earth metal hypochlorite with a water soluble bromide ion source;
  - b.       Allowing the bromide ion source and the alkali or alkaline earth metal
  - 10   hypochlorite to react to form a 0.5 to 30 percent by weight aqueous solution of unstabilized alkali or alkaline earth metal hypobromite;
  - c.       Adding to the unstabilized solution of alkali or alkaline earth metal hypobromite an aqueous solution of an alkali metal sulfamate having a temperature of at least 50°C in a quantity to provide a molar ratio of alkali metal sulfamate to alkali or
  - 15   alkaline earth metal hypobromite is from about 0.5 to about 6; and then,
  - d.       Recovering a stabilized aqueous alkali or alkaline earth metal hypobromite solution.